State Of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

The greatest acts of courage require both mental poise and physical bravery. On the morning of Sunday, November 16, 1986, several Redfield, South Dakota, men showed such courage in attempts to save a young life.

The fire was first detected at 4:32 a.m. and, before it was done, raged across three quarters of a city block, destroying four businesses, twenty-four apartments and the Senior Citizens Center. Eugene Freshour, a tenant, got his own family to safety. Then, with no regard for his own personal safety, returned to the growing inferno with Police Sergeant David Dosch in hopes of averting a tragedy and saving a young mother's child.

Their valiant efforts were beaten back by the deadly smoke and heat. The fire was moving too quickly. Two more rescue attempts made by fully protected and SCBA equipped Firefighters were unsuccessful. There was no opportunity for a third attempt.

True courage was on the streets of Redfield that morning. It was with the neighbors and friends who responded to aid those in need. It was with the families who lost their homes but who resolved to rebuild their dreams. But nowhere was it in more evidence than in the actions of Eugene Freshour, David Dosch and the Redfield Volunteer Fire Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the valor of

EUGENE FRESHOUR

and join his family, friends and neighbors in saluting him for his selfless courage and valor.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Governor's Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighth Day of January, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Seven

WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

JOYCE HAZELTINE, SECRETARY OF STATE